

June 29, 2011

Dear Members of the Growth Management Planning Council,

As a resident of King County and a bicyclist, I want to encourage that plans encourage the use of bicycles as a viable transportation option. I believe that means bike trails more than bike lanes as appendages to streets. I attached a sheet I put together to show the problem with just trying to ask bicyclist share facilities designed for cars or pedestrians.

Thanks for your review.

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## “Complete streets” design not suitable for young cyclists

### Too dangerous to ride in traffic



#### Park Drive on way to Grand Ridge Elementary

##### Bike lane hazards for kids

- Cars are too close (even if 5')
- Vehicles pass in and out of bike lane as they move in and out of parking spaces.
- Gravel in bike lane makes it very slippery

### Sidewalks too crowded for bicycles



#### ...the adjacent sidewalk

##### Issaquah's sidewalks are **not** designed for bikes

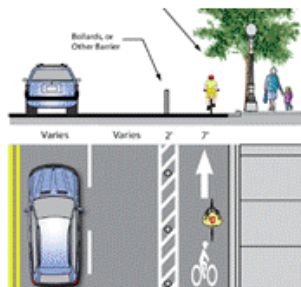
- Sidewalk's without segmentation leads to congestion.
- To pass on them requires someone to move over. This is not ideal for anyone. Separation solves this and helps avoid any potential for conflict.

- Park drive and the proposed new street are “Complete Streets,” that don't provide a safe route to school for kids (even if the bike lane was wider). For kids to ride their bikes on an on-street bike lane, they need to follow all traffic laws which they don't get taught until driver's education and for good reasons—busy 4-way stops, left turns, aggressive drivers.
- Dangerous bike lanes force kids onto sidewalks, but Issaquah's sidewalks aren't designed to accommodate bicyclists.
  - Congestion and potential conflict and fuel animosity toward bicycling.
  - Poorly conceived bike lanes get underutilized, fueling the questions of whether bike lanes are a good investment.

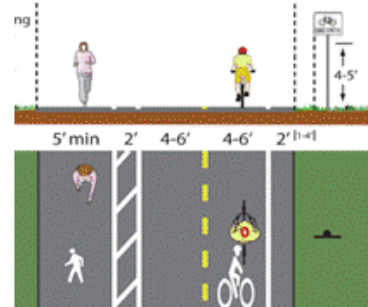
## Best designs for kids separate bicyclists, pedestrians, and cars



Raised bike lanes



Buffer bike lane



Segmented multi-use trail or sidewalk



Prepared by David Baty, Issaquah Highlands Resident, david.baty@hotmail.com, January 27, 2011